



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Linard Karklin et al.

JUL 01 2004

Assignee: Synopsys, Inc.

Technology Center 2600

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD OF PROVIDING MASK QUALITY
CONTROL

Serial No.: 09/814,025 File Date: March 20, 2001

Examiner: Seyed H. Azarian Art Unit: 2625

Docket No.: NTI-004 (717)

Date: June 22, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Initial Comments

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-15, and 17-44 are pending in the present application. Claims 6-13, 16-38, and 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,647,147 (Miyano). Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyano in view of U.S. Patent 6,556,703 (Kane). Claims 14-15, 39, 43, and 44 are allowable.

Claims 7-9, 11-13, and 17-19 are amended herein. Claims 6, 10, and 16 are cancelled.



2625

Atty. Dkt. No: NTI-004

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In re application of: Linard Karklin et al.

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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.
2. **STATUS:** Applicant is other than a small entity.
3. **EXTENSION OF TERM:** The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.
4. **FEE FOR CLAIMS:** The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	LARGE ENTITY		
Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee	
Total 41 Minus 44	= 0	x \$18 =	\$0		
Indep. 14 Minus 14	= 0	x \$86 =	\$0		
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim		+ \$290 =	\$0		
		Total			
		Addit. Fee	\$0		

No additional fee for claims is required.

5. **FEE DEFICIENCY:** If any additional extension and/or fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0574.


SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONERJeanette S. Harms
Reg. No. 35,537Customer No. 29477
Tel.: (408) 451-5907

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 22, 2004.

6/22/2004 Rebecca A. Baumann
Date Signature: Rebecca A. Baumann